

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /068 W

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O R 231528Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2130

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 2307

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, WA, SHUM

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON DFA REGARDING NAMIBIA MATTERS

REFERENCE: STATE 132956

1. I CALLED ON UNDER SECRETARY VAN DALSEN THIS MORNING TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN OVER KATATURA AND SHIVUTE INCIDENTS AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL. I MET FORMIN MULLER COMING OUT AND RAISED WOOD CASE WITH HIM. HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF OUR AIDE MEMOIRE AND SO HAD PRIME MINISTER VORSTER. AFTER CAREFUL STUDY SAG WOULD REPLY, HE ADDED. I ASKED WHETHER IN THE MEANTIME EXPULSION ORDER WOULD BE RESCINDED OR STAYED. HIS REPLY WAS THAT ON TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS VORSTER HAD SPOKEN TO ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP BURNETT ABOUT WOOD'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BUT THESE HAD CONTINUED UNCHANGED. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE CHARGES AND WHETHER THESE HAD BEEN COMMUNICATED TO BISHOP WOOD SO THAT HE COULD ANSWER THEM, MULLER AGAIN REFERRED TO VORSTER'S CONVERSATIONS WITH BURNETT IN WHICH WOOD'S ACTIVITIES WERE DISCUSSED.

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2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH VAN DALSEN AND F.D. TOTHILL,

WHO FOLLOWS SWA IN THE FOREIGN MINISTER, VAN DALSEN SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE EXPULSION ORDERS. ON ISSUE OF NOTIFYING THE WOODS OF THE CHARGES SO THAT THEY COULD RESPOND, TOTHILL SAID THAT THE COURTS WERE OPEN TO THEM TO APPEAL THE EXPULSION DECISION. INSUCH A PROCEEDING THE DEFENDANTS COULD ASK FOR A BILL OF PARTICULARS. THE WOODS, ACCORDING TO TOTHILL, HAVE LEGAL CONSEL BUT CHOSE NOT TO APPEAL.

3. WE SPOKE BY TELEPHONE THIS AFTERNOON WITH CLOSE FRIEND OF WOOD FAMILY, WHO IS NOW STAYING AT WOOD HOME. CONTACT SAID THAT BISHOP WOOD LEFT FOR BOTSWANA THIS MORNING BY CAR, BUT MRS. WOOD IS STILL IN WINDHOEK, AFTER EXPIRATION OF EXPULSION DEADLINE. CONTACT TOLD US THAT THERE IS AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT IN WINDHOEK THAT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SWA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WILL HOLD SPECIAL MEETING TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT MRS. WOOD. NO ACTION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH WOOD FAMILY.

4. SUBSEQUENT TO THE PREPARATION OF THIS MESSAGE TOTHILL CALLED ME ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN SECRETARY LOURIE TO SAY: (1) THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE AIDE MEMOIRE; (2) THAT SAG WOULD REPLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; (3) SINCE THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER WERE OUT OF TOWN, THE REPLY WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE MADE UNTIL NEXT WEEK. TO CLARIFY APPARENT INCONSISTENCY WITH MULLER BEING IN TOWN THIS MORNING, MULLER TOLD ME HE CAME TO TOWN FROM HIS FARM FOR AN APPOINTMENT AND WAS RETURNING IMMEDIATELY.)
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAMIBIA, HUMAN RIGHTS, APARTHEID, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR02307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750217-1061
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750624/aaaaawan.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 132956
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON DFA REGARDING NAMIBIA MATTERS
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, WA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006